



# Weekly SAHF Forecasters' Forum (FF) #201

Date: 18<sup>th</sup> December 2025

## Discussion Notes

<p><b>Realized Weather-Country Reports (12<sup>th</sup>–18<sup>th</sup> Dec 2025)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bhutan experienced sunny to partly cloudy conditions with no rainfall or snowfall. Temperatures remained steady, with cold conditions persisting in higher elevations.</li> <li>▪ Bangladesh observed dry weather throughout the week. Day and night temperatures showed a slight decreasing trend, with fog reported during late night and early morning hours in northern areas.</li> <li>▪ Nepal experienced mainly fair weather with morning fog over the Terai region. No significant rainfall was reported. Maximum temperatures were near normal, while minimum temperatures were slightly below normal.</li> <li>▪ Maldives experienced scattered showers over southern and central atolls, with occasional heavy showers. Northern atolls remained mostly dry.</li> <li>▪ Myanmar observed isolated rainfall over eastern and southern parts, while most regions remained dry. Temperatures were below normal in northern mountainous areas.</li> <li>▪ Sri Lanka experienced rainfall over southeastern, central, and eastern provinces, with heavy rainfall reported in some locations during the latter part of the week.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Significant Weather Features in the region for the coming week (19<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> Dec 2025)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A mid-latitude westerly trough is forecast to affect Afghanistan, Pakistan, and the Hindu Kush Himalayan region, bringing moderate rainfall and snowfall to higher elevations, along with a temporary cooling followed by fog formation over adjacent plains.</li> <li>▪ Concurrently, easterly trough activity along the ITCZ is expected to sustain convective activity over the Maldives and parts of Sri Lanka, although rainfall over Sri Lanka is likely to become more isolated as the ITCZ gradually shifts southward.</li> <li>▪ Persistent anti-cyclonic circulation over the Indian subcontinent is expected to maintain stable conditions, favoring dense fog formation over the Indo-Gangetic Plains, potentially disrupting transportation and aviation operations.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Weather Outlook (19<sup>th</sup> Dec – 25<sup>th</sup> Dec 2025)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bhutan is likely to experience predominantly dry and stable weather conditions throughout the outlook period. Sunny to partly cloudy skies are expected across most areas. Light snowfall may occur at isolated locations over higher elevations, while cold night temperatures are likely to persist, especially in western and central highlands.</li> <li>▪ Bangladesh is expected to remain under dry winter conditions during the outlook period. Skies will be mainly clear to partly cloudy, with no significant rainfall anticipated. Light to moderate fog is likely to form over inland areas, particularly during late night and early morning hours. Day and night temperatures may remain near normal, with slight cooling possible during the latter part of the week.</li> <li>▪ Nepal is likely to experience mostly fair weather conditions across the country. Partly cloudy skies may occur over hilly regions, while dense fog is expected to persist over the southern plains during morning hours. No significant rainfall is anticipated, although isolated light snowfall may occur over higher elevations associated with passing weak westerly disturbances.</li> <li>▪ Pakistan is expected to be influenced by an approaching mid-latitude westerly</li> </ul>

	<p>disturbance during the outlook period. Cloudy conditions with light to moderate rainfall and snowfall are likely over northern and northwestern mountainous regions, particularly between 21–23 December. Elsewhere, dry conditions are expected to prevail, with cold nights and the possibility of fog over plains.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Myanmar is expected to experience generally fair weather conditions over most parts of the country. Isolated light rainfall may occur over coastal, eastern, and mountainous regions, while the remainder of the country remains dry. Cooler night temperatures are likely to persist over northern and elevated regions.</li> <li>▪ Maldives is expected to experience continued convective activity during the early part of the outlook period, particularly over the central and southern atolls. Periods of scattered to locally heavy showers and isolated thunderstorms are likely, especially during the first half of the week. Rainfall activity is expected to gradually decrease later in the week as the ITCZ shifts further south, with more isolated showers thereafter. Surface winds are likely to remain generally moderate.</li> <li>▪ Rainfall over Sri Lanka is expected to reduce in spatial coverage and intensity compared to the previous week. Isolated to scattered showers may still occur, mainly affecting the eastern and southern parts of the island, particularly during the early part of the week. As the ITCZ moves southward, conditions are expected to become relatively drier toward the second half of the period.</li> </ul>
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<p><b>Extended Range Outlook</b> (19<sup>th</sup> Dec, 2025 – 26<sup>th</sup> Jan, 2026)</p>	<p>Extended Temperature outlook</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Over the extended range period, near-normal to slightly above-normal temperatures are likely to prevail across much of South Asia. Northern parts of Pakistan, Afghanistan, and the western Himalayan region may experience episodic cooler conditions associated with the passage of mid-latitude westerly disturbances, particularly during late December and early January.</li> <li>▪ Minimum temperatures are expected to remain low over northern plains and high-elevation areas, supporting persistent fog formation over the Indo-Gangetic Plains during stable weather periods. Warmer-than-normal conditions may develop over southern peninsular India, Sri Lanka, and adjoining oceanic regions, especially during periods of suppressed rainfall activity.</li> </ul>	<p>Extended Rainfall Outlook</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ During <b>Week 1 (26 December – 1 January)</b>, rainfall activity is expected to remain concentrated along equatorial and near-equatorial regions, with above-normal rainfall likely over the central and southern atolls of Maldives and adjoining oceanic areas. Most of the South Asian landmass, including Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, and interior parts of India, is expected to remain predominantly dry. Light rain or snowfall may occur over higher elevations of Afghanistan, Pakistan, and the western Himalayan region due to weak westerly disturbances.</li> <li>▪ In <b>Week 2 (2 – 8 January)</b>, rainfall activity is expected to decrease further as the ITCZ shifts southward. Dry conditions are likely to dominate most of South Asia, with only isolated precipitation over the western Himalayan region associated with passing mid-latitude systems. Snowfall may continue intermittently over higher elevations, while lowland areas remain largely dry.</li> <li>▪ During <b>Weeks 3 and 4 (9 – 15 January)</b>, below-normal rainfall is expected across most parts of South Asia. Any precipitation during this period is likely to be confined to higher elevations of the Hindu Kush–Himalayan region. Northeast monsoon activity over Sri Lanka and southern peninsular India is expected to remain subdued, while equatorial rainfall</li> </ul>
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<b>Ocean Watch</b>	<p><b>Observed Ocean Surface Conditions (12<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> Dec 2025)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Observed ocean conditions during the past week remained generally normal across the Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal. Significant wave heights ranged up to about 2.7 meters, while swell heights remained near 1.4 meters. Sea surface temperatures ranged between approximately 24°C and 29°C.</li></ul> <p><b>Forecast for the coming week (19<sup>th</sup> Dec – 25<sup>th</sup> Dec 2025)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>For the coming week, ocean conditions are expected to remain mostly moderate, with significant wave heights generally below 2.5 meters and swell heights around 1.3–1.5 meters. No major marine hazards are anticipated, although moderate swells may affect some coastal stretches of India and Sri Lanka.</li></ul>
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